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Report Highlights:
Bt cotton is the only commercially approved biotech crop in India – a total of six events and more than 300 hybrids have been approved for commercial cultivation. Bt cotton accounts for over 90 percent of the total cotton area under cultivation. There has not been any significant progress on the approval of Bt eggplant since the Ministry of Environment and Forest announced a moratorium on its approval in February, 2010. Recently, the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) decided that applications for biotech crop field trials will need prior permission from state governments before seeking approval from GEAC.

Section I. Executive Summary:

Agricultural trade between the United States and India is estimated at $2.34 billion in CY 2010 - U.S. exports to India estimated at $752 million and imports estimated at $1.59 billion - with the trade balance skewed 2:1 in India's favor. India's major agricultural exports to the U.S. include cashew, spices,

essential oils, rice, processed fruits & vegetables, vegetable oils, tea, dairy products, and other consumer oriented products. Major U.S. agricultural exports to India are tree nuts, soybean oil, pulses, cotton, fresh fruits, and other consumer food products.

India's trade policy requires that all imports food and agricultural products derived from biotech plants/organisms have prior approval from the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC). Refined soybean oil derived from Round-up Ready soybeans is the only biotech food/agricultural product currently approved for import. In CY 2010, U.S. soybean oil exports to India were estimated at $133 million, accounting for nearly 18 percent of total U.S. agricultural exports to India.

The Environmental Protection Act (EPA) of 1986 lays the foundation for India's biotechnology regulatory framework (see Annex 1). The Indian biotech regulatory system adopts a precautionary approach for the assessment of biosafety of food and agricultural products, both for commercial cultivation and for imports. The EPA outlines the procedures for importing biotech products, both for research and commercial release (See Annex 2).

In November 2007, the Government of India released the National Biotech Development Strategy, outlining a plan to set up a national biotech regulatory authority as an independent, autonomous and professionally led body that would provide a single window mechanism for biosafety clearance of genetically engineered products and processes. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under Ministry of Science and Technology (MST) has the responsibility to establish and operationalize the new Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI). After organizing a series of stakeholder consultations and inter-ministerial discussions, DBT has submitted a draft BRAI bill for parliamentary approval. In the meantime, the existing regulatory framework will continue to oversee biotechnology regulations.

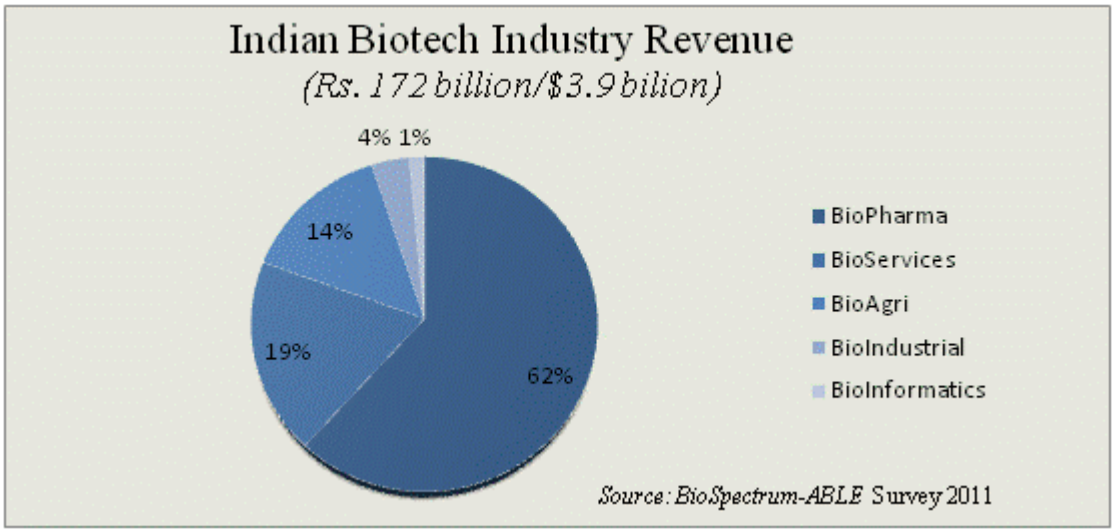
Bt cotton is the only biotech crop currently approved for commercial cultivation in India - a total of six events and more than 300 Bt cotton hybrids have been approved for commercial cultivation.

In October 2009, the GEAC recommended the approval for environmental release of Bt eggplant for commercial cultivation. A final decision is still pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF). The MoEF organized a series of public consultations and, subsequently on February 9, 2010, announced a moratorium on the approval of Bt eggplant until the government regulatory system can ensure food and environmental safety. MOEF recommended a series of long term studies, but since then, there has been very little progress on the biosafety assessment of Bt eggplant. Meanwhile, on July 22, 2010, the MoEF issued a notification changing the name of the apex biotech regulatory body GEAC from Genetic Engineering Approval Committee to Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee, implicitly limiting the role of the GEAC.

Section II. Plant Biotechnology Trade and Production:

The successful adoption of Bt cotton has encouraged the development of agricultural biotechnology into one of fastest growing segments of the Indian biotech industry. Agricultural biotechnology is now the third largest sector in the domestic biotech industry, with total revenues of Rs. 24.8 billion ($557 million) in FY 2010/11 (April-March), a 28 percent growth over the previous year (Source: BioSpectrum-ABLE Industry Survey 2011). The revenue share of agricultural in the total

biotechnology industry revenue has grown over the past five years from less than five percent to over 14 percent in 2010/11. Export revenue from agriculture biotechnology is estimated at Rs. 744 million in 2010/11.



The commercial success of Bt cotton is well-documented. Since its introduction in 2002, India's Bt cotton area has grown to over 90 percent of the total cotton area, accounting for over 95 percent of India's cotton production in 2010. As a result, India has emerged as the second largest producer and exporter of cotton in the world. To date, the Government of India (GOI) has approved six cotton events and more than 300 hybrids for cultivation in different agro-climatic zones. Most of the approved Bt cotton hybrids are from the two Monsanto events that are already approved in the United States. Other approved events include the GFM event sourced from China and the locally developed Event 1, CICR event and Event 9124. For additional information on Bt cotton in India, please refer to the "Cotton Annual Report" (GAIN IN1131).

In addition to cotton, private Indian seed companies and public sector research institutions (government research institutes and state agriculture universities) are working on the development of various biotech crops mainly for traits like pest resistance, nutritional enhancement, drought tolerance and yield enhancement. The crops currently being developed by public sector institutions include banana, cabbage, cassava, cauliflower, chickpea, cotton, eggplant, rapeseed/mustard, papaya, pigeon pea, potato, rice, tomato, watermelon and wheat. The private sector is focusing on cabbage, cauliflower, cotton, corn, rapeseed/mustard, okra, pigeon pea, rice and tomato. There are several new gene events in nine crops undergoing various stages of event selection and field trials for regulatory approval – banana, castor, cotton, corn, rice, tomato, mustard, potato, sorghum, and papaya.

On October 14, 2009, the GEAC recommended the approval for the environmental release of Bt eggplant. The recommendation, forwarded to the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), still waiting for a final decision. The MoEF invited comments from the stakeholders and held series of public consultations on the approval of Bt eggplant. On February 9, 2010, the MoEF announced a moratorium on the environmental release of Bt eggplant until the government regulatory system can ensure human and environmental safety through long term studies. On April 27, 2011, the GEAC held a consultation with experts and scientists on the regulatory process for Genetically Modified Crops as

part of Bt eggplant post moratorium follow-up. However, the decision to undertake additional biosafety studies was deferred to a future consultation. Industry sources report that there have not been any further developments on the approval of Bt eggplant.

The only imported biotech food product currently allowed in India is soybean oil derived from Round-up Ready soybeans, which is imported from several countries like Brazil, Argentina and the United States. India exports biotech cotton and cottonseed meal to several countries, but does not export any significant quantity of cotton or cottonseed meal to the United States.

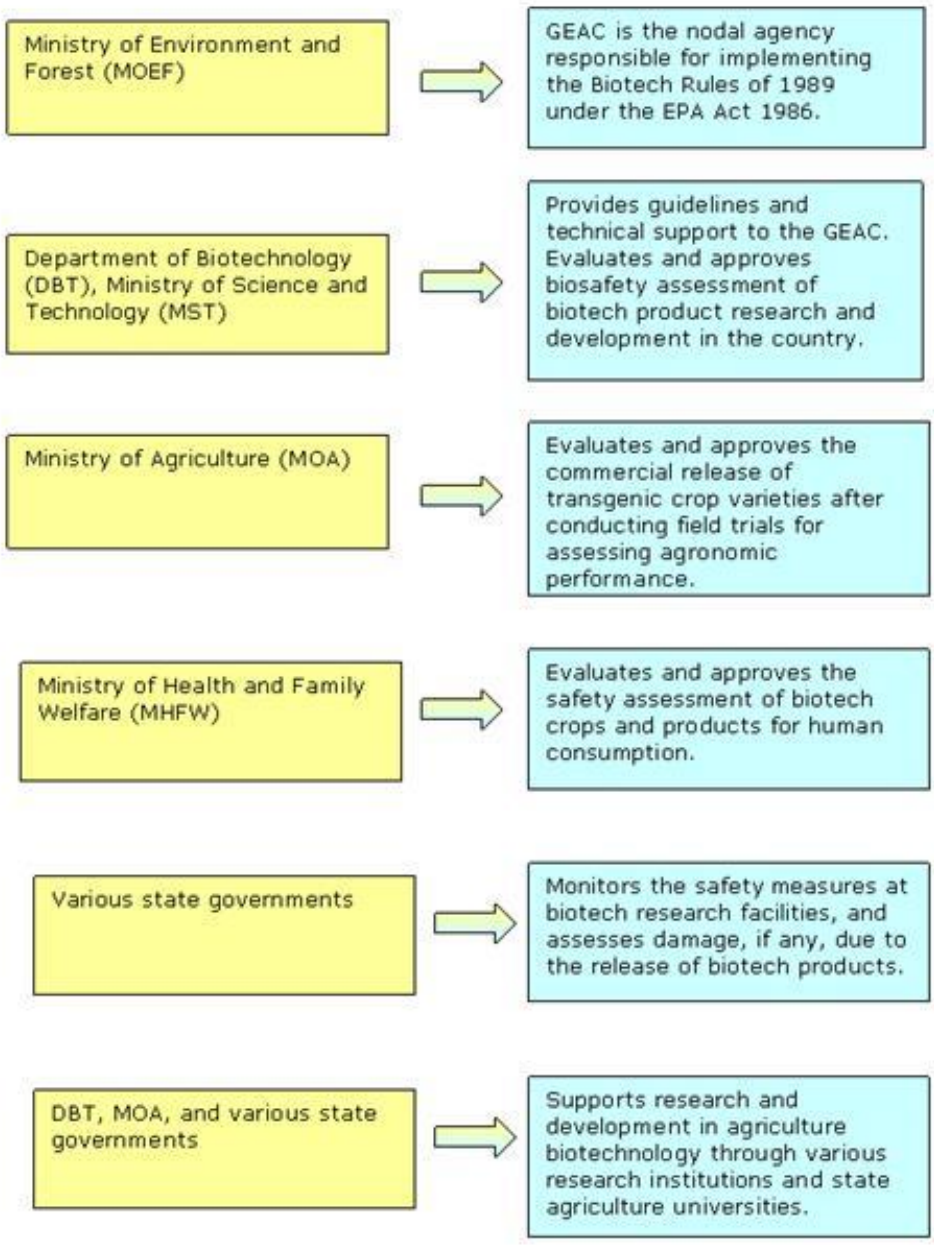
Section III. Plant Biotechnology Policy:

Regulatory Framework

The regulatory framework for biotech crops, animals and products in India is governed by the "Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989" under the Environmental Protection Act of 1986. These rules cover the areas of research, development, large-scale use, and import of biotech organisms and their products. These rules identify six competent authorities for handling these tasks (see Annex 1).

In 1990, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), in the Ministry of Science and Technology developed Recombinant DNA Guidelines, which were subsequently updated in 1994. Additionally, in 1998, the DBT issued separate guidelines for carrying out research of biotech plants and imports and shipment of biotech plants for research use. On May 28, 2008, the GEAC adopted new "Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures for the Conduct of Confined Field Trials." The GEAC also adopted new "Guidelines for Safety Assessment of Foods derived from Genetically Engineered Plants" The EPA Act of 1986, 1989 Rules, and all guidelines and protocols are available online at http://dbtbiosafety.nic.in/.

Role of Various Ministries/State Governments:



Status of the Proposed Biotechnology Regulatory Authority

On November 13, 2007, the Ministry of Science and Technology released a "National Biotechnology Strategy". One of the cornerstones of this strategy was to reinforce India's biotech regulatory framework by setting up a National Biotech Regulatory Authority (NBRA) that would provide a single window mechanism for biosafety clearance. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) was entrusted with the responsibility of setting up the authority.

In May 2008, the DBT issued a draft "National Biotechnology Regulatory Bill" and a draft "Establishment Plan for Setting up the National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority." Following inter-ministerial consultations with different stakeholders, the DBT subsequently drafted a revised "Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India Bill", which is ready for submission in the Parliament for approval. Until the BRAI bill is approved by the parliament, enacted by the government, and the proposed BRAI becomes fully functional, the existing regulatory mechanisms under the EPA 1986 and Rules of 1989 will continue to be in force.

Field Testing of Biotech Crops

In 2008, the GEAC adopted an "event based" approval system, wherein the focus of field testing is on biosafety issues, particularly environmental and health safety, and the efficacy of the event/trait. The responsibility for the agronomic evaluation is with the National Agricultural Research System consisting of Indian Council of Agricultural Research institutions and the state agriculture universities. A stacked event, even if consisting of already approved events, is treated as a new event for approval purposes. The GOI does not have any specific regulations on coexistence between biotech and non-biotech crops.

Due to the various interventions by the Supreme Court of India (see GAIN Report IN8077 page 7), the GEAC continues to be the deciding authority for approval of all field trials. The GOI maintains a policy that the biotech field trials should be conducted on either the applicant's own farm or on an SAU research farm. On January 10, 2007, the GEAC decided not to allow multi-location biotech rice field trials in basmati rice growing areas, especially in the states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttaranchal.

Before any biotech event can be approved for commercial use, it must undergo extensive field trials for agronomic evaluation under the supervision of an ICAR institution or a state agriculture university for at least two crop seasons Product developers can conduct agronomic trials in conjunction with biosafety trials, or they can conduct separate trials after the GEAC recommends environmental clearance and the government takes a final decision.

State Permission for Conducting Field Trial: In early March 2011, the GEAC withdrew permission to conduct Bt corn field trials in the state of Bihar on the request of the Chief Minister of Bihar. Subsequently on July 6, 2011, the GEAC decided that it would issue approval for field biotech crop field trials in a particular state only after the applicant provides a "no objection certificate" (NOC) from

the relevant state government. Applications that are already approved by GEAC must also obtain an NOC from the state government before field trials can proceed.

Once an event is approved for commercial use, the applicant can register and market seeds in various states according to the provisions of the National Seed Policy 2002 and other relevant seed regulations specific to each state. Following the commercial release of a biotech crop, the performance in the field is monitored for 3-5 years by the Ministry of Agriculture and by the various state departments of agriculture.

In December 2008, the GEAC implemented the (i) Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Conduct of Confined Field Trials of Regulated Genetically Engineered Plants, 2008 and (ii) Guidelines for Safety Assessment of Foods Derived from Genetically Engineered Plants, 2008. The new guidelines set out various food safety assessment tests to be undertaken before and during the BRL-I and BRL-II trials. On this basis, the GEAC approves (or denies) the environmental clearance of a particular event (see Annex 5).

Seed Policy

India's Seed Policy issued by the Ministry of Agriculture in 2002, covers seed use issues relating to transgenic crops. According to Indian seed policy, all biotech crops must be tested for environmental and bio-safety concerns prior to their commercial release as per the regulations and guidelines of the EPA 1986. The National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) is the designated agency responsible for reviewing and approving the importation of biotech seeds for research purposes. Biotech crops must be tested by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for at least two seasons to determine the agronomic potential. India's seed policy advocates "protection," of transgenic varieties under the Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Right Rules, 2003.

The Seeds Act of 1966, regulates the quality of certified seeds, while the 1983 Seeds Control Order regulates and licenses the sale of seed, including transgenic seeds. A new Seeds Bill (http://agricoop.nic.in/seeds/seeds_bill.htm) was introduced in December 2004, but is still waiting for final parliamentary approval.

In 2001, India enacted the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act to protect new plant varieties, including transgenic plants. The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Authority (PPVFRA) was established in 2005, and to date has registered 30 notified crops including transgenic cotton hybrids and varieties. The PPVFRA is planning to gradually expand the list of crop species to be notified for registration.

Cotton Seed Pricing/Technology Fee

India does not regulate seed pricing or set technology fees. Seed companies are free to fix seed prices, and a technology provider is free to establish its technology fees. Nevertheless, several biotech companies have faced seed pricing and technology fee challenges with individual state governments. In January 2006, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh filed a complaint with the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) contending that the technology fees were too high. The MRTPC asked the technology provider to review technology fees, and urged a more modest pricing structure for sales to farmers.

Following the MRTPC order, the Andhra state government issued a directive to all biotech seed companies not to price Bt cotton seeds above Rs. 750 per packet (450 gm Bt seeds and 150 gm non-Bt seeds) in the 2006 season. Subsequently, several other state governments issued similar orders. The pricing order directives have been challenged in the Supreme Court; these cases are still pending.

Food Policy

On August 24, 2006, the GOI enacted an integrated food law, namely the "Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006." The Act brings all existing food laws under one single authority the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI). FSSAI's mandate is to establish science-based standards for articles of food, and align Indian food standards with international standards. The new FSSAI also has specific provisions to regulate genetically engineered food products, including processed foods.

On August 23, 2007, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) issued a notification that processed food products derived from genetically engineered products (where the end-product is not an LMO - a living modified organism) do not require approval from GEAC for production, marketing, import and use in India. As processed food products are not replicated in the environment, they are not considered to be an environmental safety concern under the 1989 EPA. However, imports of products that are LMOs will continue to be under the purview of GEAC under EPA 1986.

Given that the FSSAI does not specifically regulate biotech food products, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MHFW) has requested the GEAC to continue to regulating biotech processed food products under the 1989 Rules. Thus the MoEF notification on processed food products has been deferred and the GEAC continues to regulate imports of processed biotech food products.

On May 21, 2010, the FSSAI circulated the 'Draft on Operationalizing the Regulation of Genetically Modified Foods in India' for comments by stake holders (See Gain report IN1044). However until new regulations are in place, the regulatory system continues to come under the EPA 1986.

Food Labeling: In March 2006, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued a draft amendment to the 1955 Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, extending a labeling requirement to "Genetically Modified foods" (For more information on the proposed regulation, refer GAIN reports

IN6024 and IN6060). Although the draft amendment has not been finalized, the FSSAI is consulting with various stakeholders to consider options under the new Food Safety and Standard Act.

Cartagena Protocol and Other International Agreements

India ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on January 17, 2003, and has established rules for implementing the provisions of the articles (see Annex 3). A Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) has been set up within the Ministry of Environment and Forests to facilitate the exchange of scientific, technical, environmental and legal information on living modified organisms (LMOs). The GEAC has the responsibility of approving trade of biotech products, including seed and food products. India has traditionally advocated strict liability and redress to the trans-boundary movement of LMOs, a position that could complicate the movement of Bt cotton seed to neighboring countries.

In Codex Alimentarius discussions, India has supported mandatory labeling of GM foods, requiring a clear declaration whenever food and food ingredients are composed of or contain genetically modified organisms.

Trade Policy

In 2006, the Ministry of Environment and Forests published the Procedure for GEAC Clearance for Imports of GM Products. The specific procedures for filing an import application for biotech products are found in Annex 2 of this report.

On July 8, 2006, the Ministry of Commerce and Industries issued a notification that specifies that all imports containing biotech products must have prior approval from the GEAC. This policy also requires a biotech declaration at the time of import. On June 22, 2007, the GEAC gave a permanent approval for importation of soybean oil derived from Roundup Ready soybeans for consumption after refining. No other biotech food products, bulk grain, semi-processed or processed, are officially permitted for commercial importation.

The import of biotech seeds and planting material is also regulated by the 2003 "Plant Quarantine Order (PQO Regulation of Import into India)," which came into force in January 2004. The PQO regulates the import of germplasm/bioengineered organisms/transgenic plant material for research purposes. NBPGR is the authorizing authority for issuing import permits. A complete text of this order is available at http://agricoop.nic.in/gazette/gazette2003.htm.

Section IV. Plant Biotechnology Marketing Issues:

Marketing of biotech crops in India is currently confined to Bt cotton. There are no restrictions in marketing domestically produced biotech cottonseed oil and meal. Imported soybean oil is also authorized for domestic marketing without any restrictions or labeling requirements.

Section VI. Animal Biotechnology:

Research on genetically engineered animals is at an infancy stage in India. Most of the research work is focused on the genomics of important livestock, poultry and fish species, which can be subsequently used in breeding programs for important traits - production (milk/meat), reproductive, drought/heat tolerance and pest/disease resistance. Research is generally conducted by public sector research organizations like ICAR institutions, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) institutions, SAUs, and other research organizations supported by DBT.

Currently there are no animals or products derived from genetically engineered animals in commercial production. The EPA 1986 governs the development, commercial use and /or import of genetically engineered animals or products.

Section VII. Author Defined:

Annex 1: Existing Biotech Regulatory Authorities – Function/Composition

Committee	Members	Functions
Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC); functions under Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF).	Chairman-Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) Co-Chairman - Nominee of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) Members: Representatives of concerned agencies and departments namely Ministry of Industrial Development, DBT, and the Department of Atomic Energy Expert members: Director General-ICAR, Director General-ICMR; Director General-CSIR; Director General of Health Services; Plant Protection Adviser; Directorate of Plant Protection; Quarantine and storage; Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board; and few outside experts in individual capacity. Member Secretary: An official from the MOEF	Approve the use of bio-engineered products for commercial applications. Approve activities involving large-scale use of bio-engineered organisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from an environmental safety angle. Consult RCGM on technical matters relating to clearance of bio-engineered crops/products. Approve imports of bio-engineered food/feed or processed product derived thereof. Take punitive actions on those found violating GM rules under EPA, 1986.
Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM); function under Department of Biotechnology (DBT).	Representatives from: DBT, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Other experts in their individual capacity.	Develop guidelines for the regulatory process for research and use of bio-engineered products from a bio-safety angle. Monitor and review all ongoing GM research projects up to the multi location restricted field trial stage. Undertake visits to trial sites to ensure adequate security measures. Issue clearance for the import of raw materials needed in GM research projects. Scrutinize applications made to the GEAC for the import of bioengineered products. Form Monitoring and Evaluation Committee for biotech crop research projects. Appoint sub-groups when required in

		topics of interest to the committee.
Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee (RDAC); function under DBT	Scientists from DBT and other public sector research institutions	Take note of developments in biotechnology at the national and international level. Prepare suitable guidelines for safety in research and applications of GMOs. Prepare other guidelines as may be required by the GEAC.
Monitoring Cum Evaluation Committee (MEC)	Experts from ICAR institutes, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and other agricultural/crop research institutions and representatives from DBT.	Monitor and evaluates trial sites, analyze data, inspect facilities and recommend safe and agronomically viable transgenic crops/plants for approval to RCGM/GEAC
Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC); functions at research institution/ Organization level.	Head of the Institution, Scientists engaged in biotech work, Medical Expert, and Nominee of the Department of Biotechnology	Develop a manual of guidelines for the regulatory process on bio-engineered organisms in research, use and application to ensure environmental safety. Authorize and monitor all ongoing biotech projects to the controlled multi location field stage. Authorize imports of bio-engineered organisms/transgenic for research purposes. Coordinate with district and state level biotechnology committees.
State Biotechnology Coordination Committee (SBCC); functions under the state government where biotech research occurs.	Chief Secretary, State Government; Secretaries, Departments of Environment, Health, Agriculture, Commerce, Forests, Public Works, Public Health; Chairman, State Pollution Control Board; State microbiologists and pathologists; Other experts.	Periodically reviews the safety and control measures of institutions handling bio-engineered products. Inspect and take punitive action through the State Pollution Control Boards or the Directorate of Health in case of violations. Nodal agency at the state level to assess damage, if any, due to release of bio-engineered organisms and take on-site control measures.
District-Level Committee (DLC); functions under the district administration where biotech research occurs.	District Collector; Factory Inspector; Pollution Control Board Representative; Chief Medical Officer; District Agricultural Officer, Public Health Department Representative; District Microbiologists/Pathologists; Municipal Corporation Commissioner; other experts.	Monitor safety regulations in research and production installations. Investigate compliance with rDNA guidelines and report violations to SBCC or GEAC. Nodal agency at district level to assess damage, if any, due to release of bio-engineered organisms and take on-site control measures.

Source: Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF), GOI.

Annex 2: Procedure and Application Formats for Import of Biotech Products

Item	APPROVAL ACCORDING AGENCY	GOVERNING RULES	FORM NO.	LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING
GMOs / LMOs for R&D	IBSC/RCGM/ NBPGR	Rules 1989; Biosafety guidelines of 1990 and 1998; Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Imports into India) – Order, 2004 issued by NBPGR; and Guidelines for the import of germplasm, 2004 by NBPGR	I	GEAC Form I
GMOs / LMOs for intentional release (including field trials)	IBSC/RCGM/ GEAC /ICAR	Rules 1989; Biosafety guidelines of 1990 & 1998	II B	GEAC Form II B
GM food /feed as LMOs per se	GEAC	Provide biosafety & food safety studies, Compliance with the Rules 1989 and Biosafety guidelines of 1990 & 1998	III	GEAC Form III
GM processed food derived from LMOs	GEAC	One time 'event based' approval given based on importer providing the following information: i. List of genes/events approved in the crop species for commercial production in the country of export/country of origin; ii. Approval of the product for consumption in countries other than producing countries; iii. Food safety study conducted in the country of origin; iv. Analytical/compositional report from the country of export/origin; v. Details on further processing envisaged after import; vi. Details on commercial production, marketing and use for feed/food in the country of export/origin; vii. Details on the approval of genes / events from which the product is derived	IV	GEAC Form IV
Processed food containing ingredients derived from GMO	GEAC	If the processed food contains any ingredient derived from category 2 and 3 mentioned above, and if the LMO / product thereof has been approved by the GEAC, no further approval is required except for declaration at the port of entry. In case it does not have the approval of GEAC, the procedure mentioned in category 3 above to be complied.	IV , if required	GEAC Form IV B

Source: MOEF Website http://www.envfor.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/gmo_lmo.htm

Annex 3: India's Compliance on Various Articles of the Cartagena Protocol

Article	Provisions	Present Status
Article 7	Application of the Advanced Informed Agreement procedure prior to the first transboundary movement of LMOs intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing.	Competent authority (GEAC) notified. Border control through NBPGR only for contained use. Projects initiated to strengthen DBT and MOEF's capabilities to identify LMOs.

Article 8	Notification – The Party of export shall notify, or require the exporters to ensure notification to, in writing, the competent authority of the Party of import prior to the intentional transboundary movement of LMOs that falls within the scope of Article 7	Rules 1989 and competent authorities in place.
Article 9	Acknowledgement of receipt of notification-The Party of import shall acknowledge receipt of the notification, in writing to the notifier	Point of contact notified, the regulatory body (GEAC) in place
Article 10	Decision Procedure-Decision taken by the Party of import shall be in accordance with Article 15	Regulatory body (GEAC) in place
Article 11	Procedure for LMOs intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing	1989 Rules [1], DGFT Notification No. 2(RE-2006) / 2004-2009 [2]
Article 13	Simplified Procedure to ensure the safe intentional transboundary movement of LMOs	1989 rules
Article 14	Bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements and arrangements	--
Article 15	Risk assessment	DBT Biosafety Guidelines for research in plants, guidelines for confined field trials guidelines for safety assessment of foods derived from GE plants.
Article 16	Risk Management	DBT Guidelines for research
Article 17	Unintentional transboundary movements and emergency measures	1989 rules
Article 18	Handling, transport, packaging and identification	1989 Rules, guidelines to be developed
Article 19	Competent National Authorities and National Focal Point	Ministry of Environment and Forests designated as competent authority and national focal point
Article 20	Information sharing and the Biosafety Clearing House	Biosafety Clearing House (www.indbch.nic.in) has been set up.
Article 21	Confidential information	--
Article 22	Capacity building	Ongoing capacity building activities by DBT, MOEF, USTDA and USAID-sponsored SABP
Article 23	Public awareness and participation	Ongoing, MOEF and DBT have specific websites on biotech developments and regulatory system including website of IGMORIS [3] , GEAC [4] , DBT Biosafety [5] , etc
Article 24	Non-Parties (transboundary movements of LMOs between Parties and non-Parties)	1989 rules in place for all import and export
Article 25	Illegal transboundary movements	--
Article 26	Socio-economic considerations	Socioeconomic analysis is an integral part of decision making
Article 27	Liability and redress	National Consultation ongoing

Source: MOEF and Industry Sources.

[1] See Annex 2

[2] http://164.100.9.245/exim/2000/not/not06/not0206.htm

[3] http://igmoris.nic.in/

[4] http://www.envfor.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/geac_home.html

[5] http://dbtbiosafety.nic.in/